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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : NA - ~~Mr. McClarkin~~ *RJG*
 FROM : NA - Mr. White *W*
 SUBJECT: Aviation Insurance

DATE: July 22, 1952

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With regard to your inquiry as to the possibility of covering aviation insurance as well as marine insurance in the FCN treaty, Herman Walker confirms my impression that the Department is proposing the marine insurance provision with considerable reluctance and would not voluntarily go further. This reluctance is based in part on the view of the Department's FCN experts that our FCN treaties already include too much.

While the airgram (A-33, July 15) which transmitted the marine insurance proposal to Tokyo gives the impression that the Department is acting in response to a direct request by the marine underwriters and the United States Chamber of Commerce, the fact is that the plea was made to a Senate committee in the course of recent hearings on other FCN treaties. As a result of this plea, the committee asked the Department to seek the inclusion in future treaties of the marine insurance provision.

We understand that shipping lines have shown no interest in the provision, and that the pressure has come entirely from the marine underwriters. Aviation underwriters have apparently made no effort to obtain a provision covering aviation insurance. If the attitude of shipping lines is any indication, it seems unlikely the airlines are interested either.

Strictly speaking, an aviation insurance proposal should presumably be classified under insurance rather than under aviation. It is, nevertheless, worthy of note that while the treaty deals directly with shipping matters, it does not cover aviation except in a general way. Herman Walker says that in accordance with an intramural understanding between CP and AV, matters relating to aviation are reserved for aviation agreements and are consequently consistently omitted from FCN treaties.

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